



# The Daily Courier

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Thursday, May 11, 2006

## Conserving water is paramount

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Tomorrow is the day for the people of Prescott, but the new ordinance that takes effect tomorrow would be a good one for everyone to follow.

Effective Friday, it will be legal for most homes and businesses to water only between 8 p.m. and 8 a.m.

It's really a common sense ordinance. The 12 evening, night and morning hours are when the rate of evaporation is least and when irrigators get the most value received out of the water they use which has become more expensive as Yavapai County municipalities adopt water rates that encourage conservation.

This past year, when the city manager imposed similar restrictions as an emergency measure when city water supplies ran low, it reduced demand by as much as 3 million gallons a day.

To be sure, this measure alone is a long way from solving the area's water problems, but it's another useful, common-sense tool in the tool box.

It's the latest in the City of Prescott's efforts to make sure the city's water users waste as little of the precious resource as possible. The city has established a Water Conservation Committee and hired Connie Tucker to the city staff to educate the public to water conservation and look for new ways to save water.

Beginning tomorrow in Prescott, it's the law, but everywhere in the county it's a good standard practice.

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